

-Info-Public Service Commission

From: d. crothers <dcrothers@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 8:57 AM
To: -Info-Public Service Commission
Cc: Fahn, Patrick J.
Subject: N.D. Association of Telecom Cooperative Comments for Case Number AD-17-49

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North Dakota Public Service Commission:

My name is David Crothers. I am the executive vice president of the North Dakota Association of Telecommunications Cooperatives. The Association represents the entire independent telecommunications industry in the State.

The Association is fully supportive of the proposed rule changes to North Dakota Administrative Code chapter 69-02-09 pertaining to procedures for protecting information from disclosure. The Association believes adopting the proposed amendment will bring a clarity and common understanding of data that must be filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission, as well as remove any ambiguities regarding when trade secret or confidential treatment of data must be requested by a telecommunications company.

Adoption of the proposed rule will, in the Association's judgment, continue to fully protect members and subscribers, provide the necessary protections in a highly competitive marketplace and reduce paperwork and resources for telecom companies.

Members of the Association include BEK Communications, Consolidated Telcom, Dakota Central Telecommunications, Dickey Rural Networks, Intercommunity Telecommunications Company, Midstate Telecommunications Company, MLGC, Nemont Telephone Cooperative, North Dakota Telephone Company, Northwest Communications Cooperative, Polar Communications Corporation, Red River Communications, Reservation Telephone Cooperative, SRT, United Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation and West River Telecommunications Cooperative.

Thank you,

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